GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2680
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2007
ELECTED MEMBERS IN PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS
Angadi Shri Suresh Chanabasappa

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of SC, ST and women elected members in the Panchayati Raj Institutions in the country `State-wise` particularly in Karnataka;

(b) whether the Government proposes to consider training programme for members belonging to weaker sections and women in particular; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANISHANKAR AIYAR)

(a): The requisite information is annexed.

(b)&(c): A Scheme entitled Panchayat Mahila Evam Yuva Shakti Abhiyan has been launched by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj for empowering the Elected Women and Youth Representatives (including those of the weaker sections of society) in a systematic manner. The components of the Panchayat Mahila Shakti Abhiyan include:

i) State-level, divisional and district-level sammelans of EWRs which provide a platform for the EWRs to articulate their experiences and their problems. After deliberations during the Sammelan, the EWRs would formulate a charter of issues to be mainstreamed into policy and advocacy support so that their concerns are addressed by the process of development in the State.

ii) Training and sensitization programmes for EWRs to equip them with the knowledge and skills required for effectively discharging their functions. These training programmes would cover aspects like participatory skills, record-keeping and accounts, legal rights etc.

iii) Setting up of State Support Centers either NGO based or Government affiliated to support the elected associations of EWRs which would serve as knowledge support and resource institutions.

The States of Rajasthan, Punjab, Kamataka, Uttranchal, Manipur, Goa, Sikkim, Chattisgarh, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have already organized the State Sammelan of the Panchayat Mahila Shakti Abhiyan. The other States are likely to hold similar Sammelan in near future. States which have already held the PMSA Sammelans are shortly due to commence training programmes for EWRs.